

Latimer, Becky

From: Bruce Rich
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 3:28 PM
To: PSC_Contact
Subject: [External] Docket #2020-229-E

To whom it may concern, as the speaker list for the hearing is now full until almost 1AM, I will register my objections via email:

Although just a homeowner who has already invested in a solar system tied to Dominion Energy's grid (formerly SCE&G) I have the following objections to what I understand are Dominion's proposed changes:

Homeowners/taxpayers have made a capital investment in their solar systems, one that even with today's rules does not not return the initial investment for a number of years. (I estimate a minimum of 13 more years at current prices, for a total time-to-get-back-to-zero of 15 years).

Radically restructuring the terms under which such investments yield any financial benefits will render them fiscally unjustifiable, and in the meantime, I have undertaken significant financial risk on behalf of the community to reduce my family's demands on the grid. Furthermore, under the terms of the interconnect, I cannot use my solar system for my own benefit if the grid is offline, so I am a contributor to the overall capacity of the Public Utility System and not the independent producer that I would like to be, considering what the outlay was.

Making homeowners pay for their contributions to the grid is a regressive tax. Such homeowners are benefiting the grid (and society) by reducing the load on the grid.

Furthermore, taxing them at the theoretical limit of their system's output is plain ridiculous. The whole system is limited by the output of the inverter, which is some percentage of the system's theoretical limit, not the panels' alleged output.

An amendment to Dominion's solar policy that WOULD make sense would be to allow the customer the OPTION of selling unused production at rates that the customer agrees to, not rates that are set by the utility at some fraction of the retail rates for electricity and exercised at the utility's whim.

Dominion is currently exercising its right of purchasing at reduced rates on November 1, right when the community heads into solar minimum, driving up their profits during the winter season when heat pumps struggle to warm homes. Granting Dominion additional leverage over taxpayers is not in the community's best interests.

Regards,
 Bruce Rich